



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Original Letters.

[LETTER⁽¹⁾ OF THE TRADERS TO VIRGINIA.]

To the King's Most Excellent Maj^{ty} and the Lords of his most Hon^{ble} Council.

The humble Petition of Divers Owners of Ships and Marchants, traders to Virginia and Maryland Sheweth

That, Whereas yo^r Maj^{ty} Pet^{rs} are informed that some perticular persons, under the names of the traders in general to Virginia have endeavored to possesse yo^r Maj^{ty} and this Hon^{ble} table that it will Conduce much to the increase of yo^r Maj^{ties} Customes and advance of Trade that the Ships which are already gone and preparing to goe thither should not be permitted to depart thence untill the first of May next.

It is Humbly propunded by the Petitioners hereunder written that the Contrary will appears if yo^r Maj^{ty} and hon^{rs} will be pleased to weigh the reason hereunto annexd.

Which duly considered yo^r Pet^{rs} with all humility implore yo^r Maj^{ties} favour and clemency towards them so to order that the Ships may returne thence according to the usuall manner which will not onely prove beneficiall to yo^r Maj^{ties} owne interest But alsoe to the generall good of all Negotiants in that trade.

(1) From the State Paper Colonial Volume 16, Folio 103, [1662] Sept. 6.

And your Pet^{rs} shall ever pray

Robert Vaulx ⁽¹⁾	A. Stanford, ⁽³⁾
John Catelyn,	Christopher Johnson,
Joshua Lasher,	Sam Tilghman,
John Wheatley,	William Barrett,
W ^m Yapp,	Rich Owen,
William Wood,	Tho: Dudley,
Thomas Moss,	Rob Morris,
Tho: Harwood,	Richd Booth,
Nicholas Jackson,	Stephen Barber,
Nathaniell Nicklethwaite,	Humphrie Ley,
John Meekes,	Edward Witheirdge.
Y. Beane,	Gerard Bucknor,
Hum Levine,	Thomas Webb,
Isaac Allen,	Edw: Ardenbrooke,
W. Roasby,	Rantford Waterhouse,
Tho: Calvert,	Mark Jarvis,
Ja: Holland,	Richard Grassingham,
John Runtinge,	Robert Hooker,
Job Nutt,	John Stedhall,
Tho: Harrison, ⁽²⁾	Tho: Toukon,
John Owen,	Lewys Stockett.
John Harris,	

(1) Robert Vaulx, a leading merchant of London, m. Elizabeth Burwell, sister of Lewis Burwell. He owned Vaulx's Hall plantation on the west side of Queen's creek. His brothers Humphrey, Thomas and James came to the Colony. James Vaulx's son, Robert, settled in Dorchester Co., Maryland. Robert's son, Robert, settled in Westmoreland Co. (County Records.)

(2) Capt. Thomas Harrison of Ratcliffe, Middlesex Co., Eng.

(3) Hugh Stanford, who died in York Co., Va., 1657, was brother of Anthony Stanford of London, Merchant. (Ibid.)

[JOHN PURVIS⁽¹⁾ TO WILLIAM PENN.]Virginia y^e 21st May, 1684.Hono^l ffriend

I have Recd thyne by ffowler who I have given what Possiable dispatch to you againe as wind & weather would pmitt doe hope these will find y^r affaires as favourable To yo^r enclynations. In ord^r to yo^r Voyage home I have sent y^e Best accommodation for yo^r Passage Downe as this Place can afford The navigation Being Both Safe & easye &c.

The 25th Instant I shall have all my Tobacco on Board and then in four or five dayes afterwards I shall be Readye to sayle however I purpose to stay God pmitting untill y^e 10th June the most part of which time will be for thy Companie wch I request if you enclyne for England itt might Bee with what expedition Possiable can be otherwayes the charge of my ship will growe heavie.

The Lord Baltmore & his family Passt this River Mouth about six dayes sence in an English fly boat Capt. Eveling Commandr and is now with The Lord of Effingham who is supposed will stay most part of this week there and then the first ffaire wind he sayles for England Please to excuse my ffaults and I shall always Remaine To bee

yo^r obliged ffriend & Servt,

JNO. PURVIS.

Endorsed:

To

My Hono^l ffriend William Penn,

Proprietor & Governor off

Pensilvania

psent

[JAMES BLAIR TO PHILIP LUDWELL.]

London, Jan. 6, 1704-5.

Dear Brother:

A few days ago, I received yours of Oct. 30, with the

(1) John Purvis was a prominent sea captain and trader to Virginia.

enclosed Mem^l. It consists so much of Generalls without any particular Instance that I fear little use can be made of it. We intend out of that and other late advices from Virginia to draw an abstract of N's late conduct, which will at least disprove a Report, which is industriously spread abroad that N. has by his late mild and good temper and conduct made all people easy. I hope by this time you have received what was sent by Mr. Wallace. Since that there is little new; only that it is in everybody's mouth that the government of Virg^a was to be given to my Lord Orkney. My Lord has been entertained with renewed promises, but the thing is not yet declared; some say the delay has been occasioned by some heats in Parliament, relating to Scotland, about the succession which are not yet quite over, but are likely to end in an offer of a Union to that kingdom; others think they are waiting to have Gov^r Nicholson's answers to all the papers and affidavits which were sent him from hence, via New York, about the beginning of July. It would be of great use if we could certainly learn that they are come to his hand, and that he shifts or delays the answer. As for my own opinion, if I were to venture a wager, it should be y^t my Lord Orkney will be declared Governor so soon as that * * business is over in Parliament; and there is not the least probability y^t that will go well over in less than a month. If my Lo—— is official is by himself being a Lt. General in the army * * a very necessary man there. There have been many who have put in to be Lt. Governor under him. It is most likely that Major Nott, Gov^r of Berwick, who married Gov^r Blackstone's sister, will be the man, and if he is, I hope we shall be very happy, for he has as good character in all respects as we can wish. It is most likely that the Virginia fleet will sail late, as not designing back till next spring. For further particulars I will referr you to Mr. Jaquelin, by whom this comes. My service to my Sister and blessing to the girles. I hear your father has bought for

you the plantation called the College, and you have a great Bargain of it, of which I wish you joy. If our hopes of Lord Orkney should fail we will do well to pursue the advice, sent by Mr. Wallace, which was to send home many affidavits concerning the Gov^{rs} mal-administration as you can; though I hope the business will be done without them. My wife and all friends here are well except M^r Nathaniel Burwell, who was taken last Monday night with a great cold. This is what offers at present from

Sir,

yo^r most affectionate Brother
and humble servant,

JAMES BLAIR.

For

The Honourable Philip Ludwell, Esq^r

at his home in James City County,
Virginia.

per M^r Jaquelin,

Jan^r 6, 1704-5.

A LETTER of William Downman to his brother, "Mr. Raleigh Downman at Joseph Ball's Esq^r in Stratford by bow, near London," dated "Virg^a Rappk, May 16, 1752," states that "his wife, mother and all ower friends are well"; "Miss Elizabeth Chichester & M^r William Glascock was married y^e 7th of Febr^r last," has no offer for tob^o as yet, but expects by June y^e market will rise; thinks 17s. cash at 30 per cent is almost as good as 13s. p. Bills Exchange; his little boy Raleigh "is often talking about his uncle." "Maj^r George Glascock & Mrs. Sarah Chinn are dead. Michell Dillon got a fall from his horse and died"; "the exr of Hew Brent deced cant discharge his debt till you prove your account." "I was with M^{rs} Pinkard to know where our great grandfather Downman lived, and she told me she believed that he lived in Plymouth; if you git y^e Coat-of-Arms do send me a seal of it"; "My wife joynes with me in Love to you and my sister, not forgiting our little nease."

[THOMAS JEFFERSON TO JAMES TAYLOR,⁽¹⁾]Washington, June 14th, 1801.

Sir:

Your favor of the 4th has been received, and yesterday the two pipes of Madeira last forwarded came to hand. They shall be paid for within the term proposed by Col^o Newton. I must decline at present taking the other two mentioned to be still on hand, on account of the extraordinary expenses of outfit on my coming into office, and which engage all my resources private as well as public for some months to come. Accept my salutations and respects.

TH. JEFFERSON.

JAMES TAYLOR, esq.

(1) Merchant of Norfolk. The tomb of his grandfather is in the yard of St. Paul's Church, and reads:

Here Lies the Body of John
Taylor, Merchant in Norfolk,
Born in the Parish of Fintrie
in the County of Stirling,
Scotland in March
1694, And Died on the 25th Day
of October, 1744, in the 51st
Year of his Age.

The arms on the tombstone are: A saltire engrailed, cantoned with a cinquefoil in chief and base, and a heart in each flank. *Crest*, a leopard holding in one paw a cinquefoil. Motto over the crest: *Fide et Fiducia*. John¹ Taylor had son John,² who married Sarah, dau of Col. Robert Tucker and Joanna, his wife. He was buried near his father. He had James,³ born Dec. 14, 1771; mar. his first cousin Sarah Newton, June 11, 1800; was clerk of the Court and merchant, importer of wine, &c. Died June 7, 1826. Had Tazewell,⁴ 3rd son, born in Norfolk, Jan. 30, 1810; educated at Georgetown College and the University of Va., a distinguished lawyer for forty years. He had Frederick S.,⁵ late member of the Va. House of Delegates. In the "Calendar of State Papers" are published several letters of James³ Taylor.